Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

LC Non-Gap Watersheds - Farmstead

Program:	**Ranking Date:**	**Application Number:**
Ranking Tool: LC Non-Gap Watersheds - Farmstead		**Applicant:**
Final Ranking Score:		**Address:**
Planner:		**Telephone:**
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes O or No O
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	Yes O or No O
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	Yes O or No O
2. c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)?	Yes O or No O
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes O or No O
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	Yes O or No O
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	Yes O or No O
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	Yes O or No O
3. c.Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes O or No O
3. d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations?	Yes O or No O
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes O or No O
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	Yes O or No O
4. c.Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	Yes O or No O
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes O or No O
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes O or No O
5. b.Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	Yes O or No O
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	Yes O or No O
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation	Yes O or No O

Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	Yes O or No O
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	Yes O or No O
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes O or No O
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	Yes O or No O
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	Yes O or No O
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	Yes O or No O
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the "EQIP Plan of Operations" result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	Yes O or No O

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Location; answer all that apply	
1. Based upon GIS data, are one or more land units in this EQIP application located in a surface water source protection area (SW SPA) for a public drinking water supply?	Yes O or No O
2. Based upon GIS data, are one or more land units in this EQIP application located in a groundwater source protection area (GW SPA), also referred to as a wellhead protection area, for a public drinking water supply?	Yes O or No O
3. Will this EQIP application correct deficiencies in agricultural waste or water quality oriented land management practice associated with one or more land units located in a watershed containing an agriculturally stressed segment of water identified on the State of Vermont 303(d) list of impaired waters?	Yes O or No O
Conserved Farm Land	
4. Is this land already conserved or approved for funding under ACEP-ALE and the application will address water quality and/or soil quality resource concerns?	Yes O or No O
CNMP Implementation	
5. Has a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) that meets NRCS' standards and specifications been developed and/or updated within the last 3 years, but is not yet fully implemented and will be addressed with this application?	Yes O or No O
Significant Contribution	
6. Will the implementation of any of the practices within the application allow the producer, regardless of the size of the operation, to address a significant contribution of pollutants to waters of the US or is the applicant required to address a problem to stay in compliance with Vermont state water quality regulations?	Yes O or No O
Underutilized Practices	
7. Does this application include one or more practices traditionally underutilized in Vermont?	Yes O or No O
Waste Storage Facilities: ANSWER YES TO EITHER QUESTION 8 OR 9, BUT NOT BOTH.	
8. Does this application include a waste storage facility where a system does not already exist on the farm and where field stacking is not feasible and where water quality concerns need to be addressed?	Yes O or No O
9. Does this application include a waste storage facility where an existing system has failed NOT due to herd expansion or lack of proper management?	Yes O or No O
Aquatic Organism Passage	
10. Will a practice be implemented that will eliminate aquatic habitat fragmentation through replacement or removal of a structure that is documented to be an AOP obstruction?	Yes O or No O
On-Farm Secondary Containment Facility	

11. Does this application include On-Farm Secondary Containment Facility (319) to address an identified resource concern	Yes O or No O

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Frankling and Grand Isle LWG	
1. Does this application prevent or reduce direct discharge of nutrients to a waterway?	Yes O or No O
2. Does the application include installation of a waste storage facility where one does not already exist on the farm?	Yes O or No O
3. Does this application include a waste storage facility where an existing system has failed, not due to herd expansion or lack of proper management?	Yes O or No O
4. Does this application prevent or reduce silage leachate from entering into a waterway?	Yes O or No O
5. Does this application contain two or more practices that will address contaminated runoff leaving a production area?	Yes O or No O
Bennington LWG	
6. Does this application include practices to control livestock access to surface water?	Yes O or No O
7. Does the application include practices recommended by a watershed, river corridor, or other plan addressing water quality issues?	Yes O or No O
8. Will this application include practices that will address water quality concerns resulting from waste system failures or lack of a waste system?	Yes O or No O
9. Will this application be part of a farm plan for increased nutrient management planning (development of an NMP or nutrient management work with a trained consultant)?	Yes O or No O
10. Does this application implement clean water diversion and/or reduce erosion from runoff?	Yes O or No O
Ottauquechee LWG	
11. Were conservation practices selected that help reduce nitrogen loading in any surface water in the Connecticut River Watershed?	Yes O or No O
12. Does this application address resource concerns that are a result of uncontrolled livestock access to streams?	Yes O or No O
13. Does this application include practices that will reduce the potential for water quality concerns due to sileage leachate and/or milkhouse waste reaching a stream?	Yes O or No O
14. Will this application include practices to keep clean water clean on the farm through the installation of roof runoff structures or other practices to prevent rain water from being contaminated by nutrient, pesticide, sediment, or other contaminants?	Yes O or No O
15. Does this application include practices that will address water quality concerns from inadequate waste storage facilities or will it address nutrient/air quality concerns through the installation of a bedded pack?	Yes O or No O
Poultney Mettowee LWG	
16. Will this EQIP application reduce Phosphorus loading in surface waters from the farmstead or production or animal mortality area/facility area?	Yes O or No O
17. Will this EQIP application reduce Phosphorus runoff by addressing animal waste storage and/or by addressing inadequate waste storage including leachate storage systems?	Yes O or No O
18. Will this application result in increased nutrient utilization through the use of aerators, cover crop, reduced tillage, zone till, or no-till?	Yes O or No O
19. Will this application address water quality issues identified in the South Lake Champlain Tactical Basin Plan or Lake Champlain TMDL?	Yes O or No O
20. Will this application include practices to keep clean water clean on the farm through the installation of roof runoff structures or other practices to prevent rain water from being contaminated by nutrient, pesticide, sediment, or other contaminants?	Yes O or No O
Rutland LWG	
21. Will this application address water quality issues identified in a watershed/other action plan/river corridor plan?	Yes O or No O

22. Will this application address water quality concerns resulting from livestock access to streams?	Yes O or No O
23. Will this application include practices to keep clean water clean on the farm through the installation of roof runoff structures or other practices to prevent rain water from being contaminated by nutrient, pesticide, sediment, or other contaminants?	Yes O or No O
24. Will this application address water quality concerns occurring within 100' of a blue line stream, and/or will it address water quality concerns impacting a critical resource area?	Yes O or No O
25. Will this application include practices that will address water quality concerns resulting from waste system failures or lack of a waste system?	Yes O or No O
Windham LWG	
26. Will this application include practices that help reduce nitrogen loading into surface waters that feed into the Connecticut River?	Yes O or No O
27. Will this application include practices to control livestock access to streams?	Yes O or No O
28. Does this application include practices that will reduce the potential for water quality concerns due to sileage leachate, nutrients, pesticides, and/or milkhouse waste reaching a stream?	Yes O or No O
29. Will this application include practices to keep clean water clean on the farm through the installation of roof runoff structures or other practices to prevent rain water from being contaminated by nutrient, pesticide, sediment, or other contaminants?	Yes O or No O
30. Will this application include practices that will address water quality concerns resulting from waste system failures or lack of a waste system?	Yes O or No O
Caledonia LWG	
31. Does the application address a documented water quality problem (e.g., impaired waters, well with high nitrates)?	Yes O or No O
32. Does the project help applicant become compliant with state and federal laws?	Yes O or No O
33. Does the application involve the diversion of clean water away from production areas?	Yes O or No O
34. Does the application include practices that keep animals away from manure and excessive wet areas?	Yes O or No O
35. Does the application include manure separation such as mechanical or composting?	Yes O or No O
Essex LWG	
36. Does the application address a documented water quality problem (e.g., impaired waters, well with high nitrates)?	Yes O or No O
37. Does the project help applicant become compliant with state and federal laws?	Yes O or No O
38. Does the application involve the diversion of clean water away from production areas?	Yes O or No O
39. Does the application include practices that keep animals away from manure and excessive wet areas?	Yes O or No O
40. Does the application include manure separation such as mechanical or composting?	Yes O or No O
Orleans LWG	
41. Does this application include practices to control storm water throught the farmstead?	Yes O or No O
42. Is this application within the Memphremagog watershed?	Yes O or No O
43. Does this application include structural practices on farms that are accessing NRCS funds for the first time?	Yes O or No O
44. Does this application include practices to control agricultural waste runoff that qualifies as a significant discharge into a waterway?	Yes O or No O
45. Will this application provide storage for all agricultural waste on the headquarters?	Yes O or No O
White River LWG	
46. Will this application include practices that manage nitrogen and other agricultural runoff related nutrients?	Yes O or No O
47. Will this application include practices that mitigate agriculture waste related significant discharges?	Yes O or No O
48. Will this application include practices that control or contain storm water runoff through the farmstead?	Yes O or No O
49. Will this application address documented groundwater, well head, and water quality concerns?	Yes O or No O
50. Will this application include structural practices on diversified livestock operations or include	Yes O or No O

structural practices on farms accessing NRCS funds for the first time?	
Winooski LWG	
51. Will this application reduce phosphorus runoff by addressing animal waste storage and/or by addressing inadequate waste storage including leachate storage treatment systems?	Yes O or No O
52. Does the proposed project lead to a decrease in untreated runoff from the farmstead into adjacent areas?	Yes O or No O
53. Will the proposed project provide for adequate management of agricultural waste in a watershed identified in the State of Vermont 303(d) list of impaired waters?	Yes O or No O
54. Will this application reduce the risk of liquid manure runoff by the addition of a composting facility?	Yes O or No O
55. Will this application address animal mortality management?	Yes O or No O
Otter Creek LWG	
56. Will this EQIP application reduce Phosphorus loading in surface waters from the farmstead or production or animal mortality area/facility area?	Yes O or No O
57. Will this EQIP application reduce Phosphorus runoff by addressing animal waste storage and/or by addressing inadequate waste storage including leachate storage systems?	Yes O or No O
58. Will this EQIP application improve water quality by addressing clean water diversion, and clean water with impacts (e.g. from a laneway), is treated without directing to the manure storage?	Yes O or No O
59. Will this EQIP application improve water quality by means of alternative manure management (including odor), or solid manure handling of agricultural wastes?	Yes O or No O
60. Will this EQIP application address alternative energy production?	Yes O or No O
Lamoille LWG	
61. Does this application prevent or reduce direct discharge of nutrients to a waterway?	Yes O or No O
62. Does this application include installation of waste storage facility where one does not already exist on the farm?	Yes O or No O
63. Does this application include a waste storage facility where an existing system has failed not due to herd expansion or lack of proper management?	Yes O or No O
64. Does this application prevent or reduce silage leachate from entering into a waterway?	Yes O or No O
65. Does this application contain two or more practices that will address contaminated runoff leaving a production area?	Yes O or No O

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices

Ranking Score

Efficiency:

Local Issues:

State Issues:

National Issues:

Final Ranking Score:

This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative: **Signature Date:**	**Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:** **Signature Date:**